

- 15 -

**CLAIMS**

1. An animal coat comprising:  
two side portions arranged to hang down from the animal's back  
alongside respective sides of the animal's body;  
5 a neck opening defined by said side portions, and arranged to engage  
around the animal's neck; and  
two leg holders, each secured to an inner face of the coat at the rear part  
of a respective one of the side portions, and arranged to receive a respective hind  
leg of the animal.
- 10 2. An animal coat according to claim 1, wherein the leg holders are above  
the lower level of said side portions.
3. An animal coat according to claim 1 or 2, wherein each of the leg  
holders is continuous.
4. An animal coat according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein each of the leg  
15 holders is of stretch material.
5. An animal coat according to any of the preceding claims, wherein each  
of the leg holders has a depth that is 10% or more of the maximum  
circumference of the leg holder.
6. An animal coat according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein each of the  
20 leg holders has a depth that is at least 8, 10 or 12% of the maximum  
circumference of the leg holder.

- 16 -

7. An animal coat according to any of the preceding claims, wherein each of the leg holders has a depth that is 30% or less of the maximum circumference of the leg holder.
8. An animal coat according to claim 7, wherein the depth of each of the leg holders is at most 30, 25 or 20% of the maximum circumference of the leg holder.
9. An animal coat according to claim 8, wherein the depth of each of the leg holders is in the range 12 to 18% of the maximum circumference of the leg holder.
10. An animal coat according to claim 10, wherein the depth of each of the leg holders is 15% of the maximum circumference of the leg holder.
11. An animal coat according to any of the preceding claims, further comprising closure means for joining said two side portions such that the coat may be opened and closed to facilitate fitting of the coat.
12. An animal coat comprising:  
two side portions arranged to hang down from the animal's back alongside respective sides of the animal's body; and  
means for retaining at least one of said side portions in a raised position and releasing that side portion to a lowered position.
13. An animal coat according to claim 12, wherein said retaining means comprises a plurality of tapes secured to the coat and means for securing said tapes in a position in which said at least one side portion is in a raised position.

- 17 -

14. An animal coat according to claim 12 or 13, wherein said retaining means is arranged to retain both of said side portions in raised positions and to release said side portions to lowered positions.

15. An animal coat according to claim 12, 13 or 14 and also according to  
5 any of claims 1 to 11.

16. A method of fitting an animal coat according to any of the preceding claims, the method comprising the steps of measuring dimensions of an animal, transferring those dimensions to a pattern, making an animal coat from that pattern, and fitting the coat to an animal.

10 17. An animal coat substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

18. A method of fitting an animal coat, the method being substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.